

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 KINGST 04574 072057Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 INR-10 LAB-04
NSAE-00 SIL-01 CAB-05 DODE-00 DOTE-00 FAA-00 L-03
USPS-01 OC-06 CCO-00 WRDE-00 H-02 /055 W
-----101567 081518Z /64 40

R 071805Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1628

UNCLAS KINGSTON 4574

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: JM, ELAB
SUBJECT: STATUS OF LABOR UNREST-JAMAICA

1. AS OF TODAY, AIR JAMAICA PILOTS ARE STILL ON A WORK-TO-RULE SHOWDOWN WHICH MEANS THAT FLIGHTS TO AND FROM THE UNITED STATES ARE EXPERIENCING DELAYS OF TWO TO FIVE HOURS, AND SEVERAL FLIGHTS HAVE BEEN CANCELLED ALTOGETHER. JAMINTEL IS ON A SLOWDOWN THE EFFECT OF WHICH IS LONG DISTANCE CALLS ARE OFTEN DISRUPTED AND THE TELEPHONE MUST BE ALLOWED TO RING APPROXIMATELY EIGHTY TIMES BEFORE AN OPERATOR WILL ANSWER. LOCAL BUS SERVICE IS STILL ON STRIKE. TODAY THE POSTAL WORKERS ANNOUNCED A GO-SLOW. THIS LATTER IS MOST SURPRISING TO US SINCE WE ALL THOUGHT THEY WERE ON A GO-SLOW FOR THE LAST TWO YEARS.

2. THIS EMBASSY RECEIVES APPROXIMATELY 100 COMMUNICATIONS A MONTH FROM THE CONGRESS. IN CASUAL CONVERSATION WITH MEMBERS OF CONGRESS THEY SHOULD BE ADVISED THAT THE NORMAL TRANSIT TIME VIA INTERNATIONAL AIR MAIL BETWEEN WASHINGTON AND THIS EMBASSY IN KINGSTON RANGES FROM THREE WEEKS TO THREE MONTHS. IT WILL NOW BE LONGER. THE DEPARTMENT'S AIR POUCH ALTHOUGH TAKING 17 TO 20 DAYS FROM U.S. POSTAL MARK TO REACH US, NEVERTHELESS, IS STILL THE QUICKEST AND SAFEST MEANS OF TRANSPORTING MAIL.

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IRVING

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Decapton Note:
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